
FMTA April Newsletter

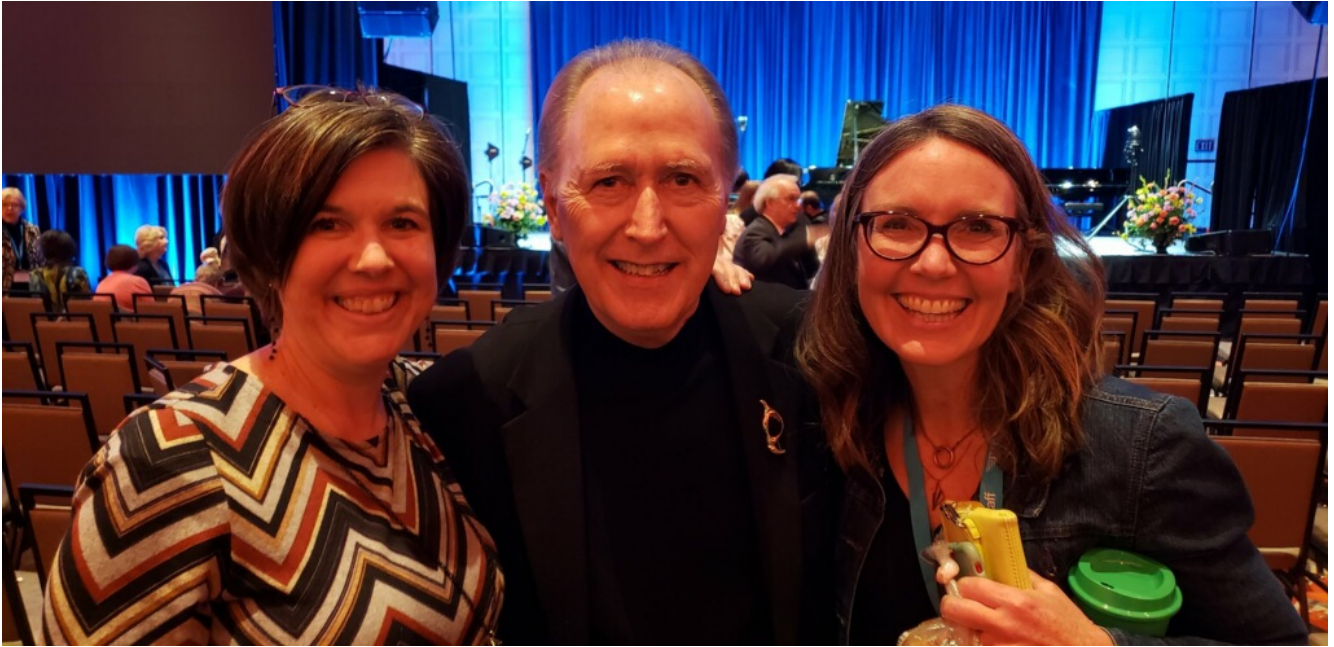
General Meeting: Wednesday, April 19th
9:30 General Meeting
10:30-Jerome Gilmer, presenter
Composing with our Students

Jerome Gilmer (President of Aurora MTA) is an eight time Emmy Award winning composer, producer and pianist from Denver, Colorado. He has written and produced hundreds of original musical works for film and television, and his clients include many of the largest businesses in the US and internationally. Among his many projects are two that featured the voices of country singer, Lyle Lovett and soulful Gospel vocalist, Yolanda Adams – each of whom are recipients of four Grammy Awards. Jerome funded his 1976 move to Denver with earnings from working on the Steven Spielberg movie, “***Close Encounters of the Third Kind***,” on which he helped create special musically coordinated lighting effects for the final scenes. Since settling in Colorado, his music has been heard in markets across the country and internationally. His song, “This Is Colorado,” was for many years the de facto state anthem in the state’s school music programs.

All that to say...you do NOT want to miss this program! Feel free to invite students who are interested in composition to attend this program!

Location:

Lakewood School of Music
(In the Notable Apartments)
730 Simms St, Lakewood, CO 80401



The one and only Dennis Alexander

A Note from the President

One of the best perks to being the FMTA President is being able to attend the MTNA National Conference on behalf of FMTA. Carrie Christensen and I had a fantastic time in Reno this past week and brought home a stockpile of music, new ideas and cherished memories. I even got to be reunited with my very first piano teacher from Las Vegas, who I have not seen since 1991!

Carrie and I had a wonderful time grabbing meals with Amanda Dove and Mollie Yoder from FMTA, who were also attendance, and were proud to be one of 20+ Colorado teachers at the conference.

We snapped pictures with every composer we came across, including Dennis Alexander at 9:30pm after a concert. He was such a sport!

We had the privilege of having lunch with several teachers whom I stock online for group teaching and group games, including Leila Viss, Dorla Aparicio, Nicola Canton and Marie Lee. And let's not forget I made the Kranky Lady play ALL her card games with me so that I know how they work! And she said she is available for game night when she is in Denver visiting her daughter! So I will be putting that on the schedule soon and you will all be invited.

Takeaways for me:

- ❖ Free and discounted music
- ❖ Presentations on adaptive and inclusive music lessons and events for special needs
- ❖ Composers presenting on the why and what in their music
- ❖ Connecting with amazing colleagues and learning from one another
- ❖ Master Classes with Melody Bober, Angela Cheng and Alvin Chow (yes, we know them from CU once upon a time!) and Dennis Alexander
- ❖ How to access and teach Anime music
- ❖ Integration of music outside the typical canon of Classical repertoire
- ❖ Models of how to teach good finger technique in the early stages
- ❖ And I should not forget that I won the drawing for the FREE waiver to be nationally certified! So guess what I will be focused on this summer?!?

What a privilege it is to represent our amazing chapter at a national level and one I will forever cherish.

Warm wishes,
Davina Perret

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May Musicale-Performers needed!!! Please email Davina if you and/or your ensemble would like to perform in our May Musicale. For those who are new to FMTA our May meeting is dedicated to a recital comprised of our very own teachers. Lunch will follow at Jose O'Sheas. Please be on the lookout for an Evite RSVP for lunch. Email davina.perret@gmail.com

CSMTA

Have you taken a moment to fill out this important teacher questionnaire for our State??

[**CSMTA Survey**](#)

Website Chair Update

The "Find a Teacher" document on the FMTA website has been updated! Please email website chair Lorian Bartle at info@BartleGuitarStudio.com if you are a current FMTA member who wants to be added to the list or if you wish to edit your entry on the document.

Sonatina Festival Report

With gratitude to our 26 dutiful teacher volunteers, to our five highly professional judges, to our 109 devoted piano students, and to the steadfast support of Colorado Christian University's School of Music, the 2023 leadership of our Sonatina Festival is pleased to announce another winning year. Our judging ran smoothly, and our two afternoon winners' recitals boasted many talents within our ranks from exemplary piano teaching to the finest student performances before the eager and appreciative ears of our parents, families, and friends. Our highest achieving students garnered winner trophies, honorable mention ribbons, and a golden opportunity to perform on CCU's superb Bechstein grand piano.

Our Festival held the line on budgeted resources, using supplies on hand and spending wisely. The recent changes in Festival Standing Rules and updates to our approved repertoire played out well. With proposals for next year's updates now coming in--and inspired by Laura Rogers and her diligent research--we're already building a more accurate repertoire list for 2024. Our streamlined online registration system along with our real time publishing of competition results functioned like a well-oiled machine: kudos to Laura Trefethan, April Larsen, and Elinore Quander. Our judges were pampered by the generous hospitality rendered by Amy Erhard. Our day-of-headquarters team led by Davina Perret and Bill Gleason worked seamlessly to calculate results, compile paperwork and certificates, and produce quality programs for both afternoon recitals. And, beyond all this, we earnestly recognize CCU's Dean Steven Taylor and Dr. Aaron Stampfl for their unflagging support of this important project.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Gleason and Carrie Christensen, Co-Chairs

Holiday Benefit Recitals SURVEY

At our recent March Board meeting we discussed the Holiday Benefit Recitals--pros and cons about location, sign ups, and goals.

We have the opportunity for FMTA to reserve a day at **Southwest Plaza Mall** during December. Reserving a space at SW Plaza is FREE, and would require us to bring in our own piano (which Davina owns and can transport) and sound system. They provide the chairs.

This event would promote FMTA to the broader community and also provide an opportunity for 100% of donations to go to our Scholarship Fund.

However, some of our teachers may prefer FMTA to collaborate again on a formal recital location, like at Lakewood School of Music (not free, but a beautiful and private recital venue).

And some prefer to host their own studio recitals aside from FMTA.

Please take ONE MINUTE to fill out this survey so that the Board can best understand the desires of our teachers. [SURVEY HERE](#)

2023-24 Board Nominations

We will be voting in our next slate of officers for 2023-24 at our April meeting!!!

Officers nominated are:

President – Thomas Hoops

First VP programs – Amy Israel Erhard

Second VP Membership – Carrie Christensen

Third VP Publicity - open

Secretary - Sue Brownson

Treasurer – Elinore Quander

Nominating Committee: Helen Gleason, Kathy Hammer, Elinore Quander

Amendment to Bylaws

MOTION: The position of Vice President of Publicity be deleted from FMTA Bylaws, Article IV Officers, Sections A and B IV.

Rationale: The FMTA Executive Board recommends this motion because the position is no longer relevant to FMTA activities. This position was created during the age of newspaper print, pre-social media. Promotion of FMTA events happens through social media by our active website and email communications, along with a strong social media presence by many active FMTA teachers.

Members will be given a 30 day notice at the April meeting. This motion will be voted upon at the May meeting.



FMTA Scholarship Information for 2023

Scholarships for FMTA students are available for 2023! We offer scholarships for:

- ***Summer Music Camps***
- ***High School Seniors applying for college/university.***
- ***Note: College students who received a scholarship may continue to receive the scholarship (4 years total) if they continue as a music major or minor and have appropriate grades.***

Here are the details:

- The application can be found on the FMTA website using this link: <https://www.fmtamusic.org/student-scholarships/>
- Applications are due on Wednesday, April 19, 2023
- Please email or mail applications to: Laurie Brown
- Email address: Laurie.e.brown@gmail.com
- Snail Mail address: Laurie Brown, 11970 W. 70th Way, Arvada, CO 80004
- Please note that seniors applying for college scholarships must be music majors or music minors.
- Scholarship winners will be announced at the FMTA meeting Wednesday, May 17, 2023.

- Any questions? Call, text or email Laurie Brown. Cell (303)422-0822

Community Announcements

Job Opportunity

Do Re Mi Lessons is looking to hire a piano and voice teacher to add to their staff.

They have a waitlist of students who are eager to begin/continue lessons, especially after their beloved Laura High passed away unexpectedly in January.

Please contact Dean and Desiree Hirschfeld @ doremicolorado@gmail.com if you are interested or know of someone who would be interested.

FREE CONCERT

St. Martin's Chamber Choir is offering free tickets to anyone who has not yet attended an SMCC concert. Here are dates and info:

Saturday, April 22nd

Monday, April 24th

<https://www.stmartinchamberchoir.org/2022-23-season/>

Give names and dates #tickets to Helen Gleason 615-533-5529 by Thursday 3/2/23 noon and tickets will be at Will Call.

Festival for Creative Pianist Updates:

The Festival is now scheduled in quarters:

Summer: June - August

Enrollment Fee is \$150.

A scholarship fund is available. Students who qualify would pay a fee of \$45 for this three month engagement with our Teaching Artists. This is equivalent to charges many teachers have for a one-hour lesson.

<https://www.festivalforcreativepianists.org/>

I encourage you to listen to the Festival Highlights 2021. It will help you understand more about the engagement students experience with the Festival Teaching Artists. ~ Evelyn

Do you have an announcement for the monthly newsletter?

Please email davina.perret@gmail.com by the first of the month to have it included in the next month's newsletter.